Episode 57: Kenny the Ripper

BAM

IS ERWIN HERE ?!

THERE YOU ARE !!

EREN REMEMBERED SOME VITAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE TITANS!

PANT

AND...! IT'S BAD NEWS!

WE NEED TO RETHINK THIS PLAN!

PANT

EREN SAID IT MIGHT'VE JUST BEEN A DREAM, SO WE SHOULDN'T TAKE IT TOO SERIOUSLY...

BUT I DON'T AGREE!

GLUG GLUG

IF THIS IS TRUE, IT WOULD BE INSANE !!

WHAT'S THE PROB-LEM?

CUT TO THE CHASE.

PANT

PANT

WE NEED TO DEAL WITH IT IMMEDI-

WHOOMP

THUD

SLOP

... REISS ...

PANT

PANT

... WANTS TO EAT EREN.

RUMBLE

TROST DISTRICT

ROAR

MUNCH...

...THIS IS A CONVER-SATION BETWEEN BERTOLT AND YMIR?

SO HE SAID.

SURVEY CORPS TROST DISTRICT DIVISION

AND YMIR REPLIED, "I WANDERED AROUND OUTSIDE THE WALLS FOR 60 YEARS"...

BERTOLT SAID, "I'M SURE YOU DIDN'T WANT TO EAT A HUMAN."

BUT SHE SAID IT WAS LIKE A 60-YEAR-LONG NIGHT-MARE...

...IT'S UN-IMAG-IN-ABLE.

I DON'T KNOW IF SHE WAS FORCEFULLY TURNED INTO ONE LIKE THE PEOPLE OF RAGAKO VILLAGE, OR IF IT WAS SOMETHING ELSE...

...IN OTHER WORDS, YMIR MUST HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE TITANS WANDERING OUTSIDE OF THE WALLS.

BUT MAYBE THEY'RE SO CUTE IN PART BECAUSE OF THE PITY YOU FEEL FOR THEM...

THEY'RE STILL UNMISTAK-ABLY A THREAT TO HUMANITY...

IT'S NOT LIKE THEY WANT TO WALK AROUND NAKED AND EAT HUMAN BEINGS.

ARE THESE WORDS THE FIRST EREN REMEMBERS YMIR SAYING?

YES ...

HIS MEMORIES START WITH HER SAYING, "DO YOU HATE ME FOR IT?"

YOU CAN PROBABLY INFER FROM THIS THAT YMIR ATE ONE OF BERTOLT, REINER, OR ANNIE'S FRIENDS.

WE'VE SEEN COUNTLESS PEOPLE GET EATEN BY TITANS...

...SO WE KNOW EATING A HUMAN WON'T TURN A TITAN BACK INTO ONE.

BUT IF YMIR ATE ONE OF REINER'S COMRADES... WHOEVER IT WAS COULD PROBABLY TRANSFORM INTO A TITAN.

IN OTHER WORDS, IF A HUMAN WHO HAS BEEN TURNED INTO A TITAN EATS A HUMAN WHO CAN TRANSFORM INTO A TITAN, THEY TURN BACK INTO A HUMAN.

OR TO BE MORE PRECISE, THEY GAIN THEIR ABILITY TO CONTROL THEIR TITAN TRANSFOR-MATION.

REMEMBER, THEY THREW TITANS AT EREN AS HE WAS GETTING AWAY...

AND... IF YOU'LL ALLOW ME TO CHANGE SUBJECTS ...

THIS REMINDED ME OF THE REPORT FROM WHEN WE RECOVERED EREN FROM REINER AND BERTOLT.

COULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN TO HAVE ANOTHER TITAN EAT EREN?

I REALLY HAD TO THINK ABOUT THEIR GOAL.

THEY HAD TRIED SO HARD TO STEAL EREN AWAY, SO WHY WOULD THEY SUDDENLY TRY TO KILL HIM?

THEN MAYBE THE "SCREAM" THEY WANT FROM EREN WORKS IN THE SAME WAY.

IF THE ABILITY TO TRANSFORM CAN BE TRANSFERRED BY EATING...

IN THAT CASE, EREN IS JUST A VESSEL.

HE'S INTER-CHANGEABLE TO THEM.

IF THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT WANTS TO USE THE SCREAM,

THERE'S NO WAY THEY'LL KEEP THAT POWER SITTING INSIDE A PERSONIFICATION OF TEENAGE REBELLION LIKE EREN.

IF THEY CAN... THEY'LL TRANSFER IT TO SOMEONE MORE CONVENIENT.

JUST LIKE REINER TRIED TO DO...

IN OTHER WORDS, IF THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT, WHICH SEEMS TO KNOW ABOUT THE TITANS, HAS A TITAN OF THEIR OWN...

THEY'LL SURELY FEED EREN TO IT.

WHAT DO WE DO?

THAT'S MY TAKE ...

REEVES IS ON OUR SIDE. WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET EREN BACK.

SKREEK

IF WE LOSE HIM, THE PLAN TO RECAPTURE WALL MARIA GOES UP IN SMOKE...

IN THE WORST CASE... THIS PLAN MIGHT HAVE COST US EREN FOREVER. WE HAD ASSUMED THAT HE WAS IRREPLACEABLE, BUT NOW...

WHAT'S THAT?

...

IT'S A REPORT FROM THE TEAM INFILTRATING LORD REISS'S TERRITORY.

THIS CAME YESTERDAY.

SSTK

STILL, I FEEL THAT THIS INVESTIGATION IS LINKED IN SOME WAY TO THE "FIRM COVENANT" HE TALKED ABOUT.

OH, AND AS FOR THE WALLISTS... THERE REALLY DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY HOPE OF FINDING OUT ANYTHING BEYOND WHAT MINISTER NICK TOLD US.

RUSTLE

I JUST FEEL THAT THEY'RE SOMEHOW RELATED.

IT'S THE SAME WITH WHAT YOU JUST TOLD ME.

...AND, IN THE END, THEY HAD HER KILLED!

...THE FAMILY NEVER TRUSTED HER...

THEN WHAT ABOUT HISTORIA REISS? SHE WAS BORN TO A MISTRESS WHO NEVER MARRIED THE LORD...

IF THE "FIRM COVENANT" ENTRUSTED THE SECRET ORIGIN OF THE WALLS TO A SINGLE BLOODLINE...

YES... IT IS STRANGE.

WHY IS THE GOVERNMENT AFTER HER AS MUCH AS THEY'RE AFTER EREN?

SO WHY DOES HISTORIA STILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO THESE SECRETS ...?

COM-MAND-ER ERWIN!

ガチャ CLICK

BUT PERHAPS THIS LETTER WILL EXPLAIN WHY...

...IN THE MIDDLE OF TOWN, TOO...

THEY'RE GOING ON ABOUT AN ORGANIZED MURDER...

バーン BAM

THE INTERIOR MP FIRST SQUAD IS DEMAND-ING TO SEE YOU.

...

...MUR-DER...?

WHAT'RE YOU PLANNING?!

WHAT ABOUT SQUAD LEVI?!

WHA...?!

GET AWAY FROM HERE, HANGE.

SCRUNCH

LEVI

I'LL ACT AS THE FACE OF THE SURVEY CORPS.

IF OUR ENEMIES ATTACK HEAD ON, OUR PLANS WILL FALL APART. DEAL WITH THE SITUATION AS IT CHANGES.

YOU TOO, HANGE. DO WHAT YOU THINK IS BEST.

LEVI CAN DECIDE FOR HIMSELF.

I'M SAYING ...

THE NEXT COMMANDER OF THE SURVEY CORPS WLL BE HANGE ZOË.

YOU.

DON'T RELY ON HIM.

...THEY BROKE DOWN.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR TALKS WITH COMMANDER PIXIS?

CLICK

I'M LEAVING THE CORPS IN YOUR HANDS.

ERWIN!

IT'S ERWIN.

ZAKK ZAKK

HEY... HE'S HERE.

DO YOU KNOW WHO THIS IS?

ERWIN SMITH.

DIMO REEVES.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REEVES COMPANY.

THEIR THROATS HAD BEEN SLIT WITH A SHARP BLADE.

WE DISCOVERED HIM AND TWO OF HIS EMPLOYEES KILLED IN THE MOUNTAINS.

...DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS?

ERWIN ...

THE JOB SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT BY SOMEONE WITH MILITARY TRAINING.

NOTHING WAS TAKEN, AND IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THE WORK OF BANDITS...

...

YOU DON'T NEED TO BE DIPLOMATIC ABOUT IT. JUST TELL ME WHY.

WHAT I KNOW IS THAT THE SURVEY CORPS IS CURRENTLY SUSPECTED OF KILLING THEM.

WELL, JUST AS THE REEVES COMPANY'S PARTICIPATION IN OUR INVESTIGATION WAS MADE PUBLIC...

YES... WE REPORTED IT TO THE MILITARY POLICE AND REQUESTED AN INVESTIGATION.

...CITIZENS REPORT SEEING SURVEY CORPS MEMBERS BEING ATTACKED BY TWO INDIVIDUALS TWO DAYS AGO.

MURMUR

MURMUR

...IN ORDER TO RECAPTURE EREN YEAGER... THE PERPETRATOR IS THOUGHT TO HAVE ESCAPED WITH HIM.

...THE SURVEY CORPS MUST HAVE PICKED UP ON THIS AND ATTACKED THE PRESIDENT OF THE REEVES COMPANY...

...AND ALL MEMBERS MUST APPEAR BEFORE US.

THERE-FORE, THE SURVEY CORPS IS ORDERED TO IMMEDIATELY CEASE ITS ACTIVITIES ...

YOU JUST HAVE TO BRING EVERYONE TOGETHER AND PROVE THAT YOU'RE INNOCENT.

IF OUR THEORY IS WRONG... SO BE IT.

HONESTLY... I CAN'T IMAGINE HOW SOLDIERS WHO'VE DEDICATED THEIR HEARTS TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE COULD TAKE SOME OF THOSE PEOPLE'S LIVES.

IF YOU'RE INNOCENT, GET THE CORPS TOGETHER BY TOMORROW.

ZAKK

ZAKK

LAZY AS EVER, AND AT A TIME LIKE THIS?!

IT HAS TO BE THEM.

THEY WERE DOING SOMETHING WITH THAT TITAN BRAT.

THE SURVEY CORPS IS NOW UNDER OUR CONTROL.

GET IN, ERWIN.

THE MPS CAN FINALLY CRUSH THAT BAND OF FREAKS.

IN ANY CASE, I'M HAPPY TO SEE THOSE PARASITES GO.

!! ...DON'T YOU COME CLOSE TO HIM... YOU VILLAIN!!

SQUAT

...ALONG WITH MANY OTHER DIRTY, UNLAWFUL TRICKS.

...BY COLLUDING WITH THE MILITARY...

MISTER REEVES REBUILT HIS COMPANY AFTER THE CHAOS WE SAW FIVE YEARS AGO.

ARE YOU SAYING HE DESERVED TO DIE ?!

S-SO WHAT IF HE DID ?!

WHEN TROST DISTRICT WAS ATTACKED, HE DELAYED THE EVACUATION WHEN HE TRIED TO BRING ALL HIS BELONGINGS WITH HIM.

HE STAYED ROOTED HERE AND SUPPORTED THE MEN AND WOMEN WITH NO PLACE TO GO.

WHEN TROST DISTRICT WAS ON THE VERGE OF COLLAPSE...

BUT ...

...OR MAYBE HE LEARNED SOMETHING FROM HIS STRUGGLES AFTER LOSING IT ALL FIVE YEARS AGO...

MAYBE HE FELT SOMETHING WHEN HE SAW THIS TOWN AFTER THE TITANS HAD RUN THROUGH IT...

BUT... SOMEONE HAS SQUASHED THOSE HOPES.

THIS TIME, HE WAS TRYING TO SAVE THIS TOWN.

FIVE YEARS AGO, HE WAS AN OUTCAST HERE... HE CHOSE THE SAFETY OF HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS OVER PROTECTING THE TOWN.

I PRO-MISE ...

...TO AVENGE HIM.

ROLL
ROLL ROLL カラ カラ カラ

...OLD MAN.

?!

GRAB

MMMFF!

WHOOOOOOSH

YOU WERE THE PRESIDENT'S SON, RIGHT? YOU'RE...

DO YOU REMEMBER ME FROM WHEN YOU WERE LEAVING THE HIDEOUT?

...FLEGEL.

NICE TO MEET YOU, FLEGEL.

I'M HANGE ZOË.

MY DAD... AND DAN... AND JIM... THEY WERE ALL KILLED.

W... WHEN I WAS TAKING A LEAK...

WHO DID THIS ?!

TELL ME WHAT HAP- PENED.

SORRY, BUT I'M IN A HURRY. YOU WERE WITH THE COMPANY PRESIDENT, RIGHT?

A TALL MAN IN A BLACK COAT... HE GOT MY DAD, AND...

...BY THE FIRST SQUAD.

THEY WENT OFF WITH THEM...

WHAT ABOUT EREN AND HISTORIA ?

HOW?!

WE NEED TO EXPOSE THE TRUTH.

...WELL, AT LEAST YOU'RE ALIVE.

...

MY TESTIMONY DOESN'T MEAN A THING!!

IF THE MPS SAY THE SURVEY CORPS DID IT, THEN THE SURVEY CORPS DID IT!!

YOU SAW WHAT JUST HAP-PENED!

DO YOU THINK THE MPS WILL ARREST ***THEM-SELVES ?!***

THEY'LL REALIZE THEY MISSED ME, THEN COME TO KILL ME...!

AND... SINCE OTHER COMPANY EMPLOYEES WON'T SUSPECT ANYTHING, I'M SURE THEY'LL TELL THE MPS THAT I WAS AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME...

BUT ...

WELL... PER-HAPS...

THERE'S NOWHERE FOR ME TO GO... I'LL HAVE TO BE DEAD TO MY FAMILY, DOOMED TO WANDER INSIDE THESE OPPRESSIVE LITTLE WALLS... DAMN IT!!

CAN'T YOU LOOK AT IT THIS WAY, FLEGEL?

...I WOULDN'T WANT TO LIVE LIKE THAT.

NO, I WOULDN'T!

WOULDN'T YOU RATHER STRIKE A BLOW AT THAT ENEMY, EVEN IF IT COSTS YOU YOUR LIFE—

INSTEAD OF LIVING YOUR ENTIRE LIFE AS A QUIET LITTLE MOUSE, TERRIFIED OF YOUR ENEMIES...

...GET OFF SCOT-FREE ?!

CAN YOU JUST KEEP ON LIVING LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED WHILE THE MEN WHO KILLED YOUR FATHER AND YOUR FRIENDS...

A LIFE LIVED AS A MOUSE CAN STILL BE A HARD-FOUGHT ONE! ...YOU DON'T HAVE ANY RIGHT TO CRITICIZE ME FOR DECIDING TO LIVE THAT WAY!

...

NOT EVERYONE LOOKS AT LIFE AND DEATH IN THE SAME WAY AS YOU PEOPLE!

SO *YOU* THINK ABOUT WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU, TOO!!

GRAB

EEK!

OF COURSE I AM!!

YOU'RE JUST SAYING THAT BECAUSE IT'D BE BEST FOR YOU!

WHAT ?!

...TO TELL YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY THE TRUTH ?!

DON'T YOU WANT ...

...!

WHO'S THAT UP THERE MAKING ALL THAT NOISE...?!

YOU'VE BEEN DEFEAT-ED!!

YOU'VE LOST ALREADY!

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

DEFEAT IS ALL THE SURVEY CORPS HAS EVER KNOWN!!

N-NO! LET GO!

COME ON, FLEGEL! YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!

STOHESS DISTRICT

TWO DAYS LATER

IF YOU SEE ANYONE RESEMBLING THEM, INFORM THE MILITARY POLICE IMMEDIATELY!

SOME SOLDIERS HAVE IGNORED THE SUMMONS AND ARE STILL AT LARGE!

THE SURVEY CORPS HAS MURDERED CIVILIANS!

OH DEAR... IT'S SO DANGEROUS NOW I DON'T EVEN WANT TO GO OUTSIDE.

THEY'RE TRYING TO USE THAT MONSTER, EREN, TO DESTROY HUMANITY!

THEY'RE THE SAME GROUP RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT TITAN FIGHT INSIDE THE WALLS!

SEE? JUST LIKE I SAID.

I HOPE THE MILITARY POLICE DOES A GOOD JOB...

IT'S TERRIFY-ING...

THEY COULD BE NEXT TO US AND WE WOULDN'T EVEN KNOW!

BUT CAPTAIN LEVI IS THE ONLY ONE THEY'VE IDENTIFIED.

YOU CAN USE THAT STREET.

THEY WERE PASSING THESE OUT.

YEAH... IT FEELS LIKE IT'S ALL OVER.

JUST IN GENER-AL...

...THIS MEANS THE SURVEY CORPS IS DISSOLVED.

HEY... IT HASN'T COME TO THAT YET...

BUT TO THINK A BUNCH OF ANGRY HUMANS ARE GOING TO LOP MY HEAD OFF...

I WAS PREPARED TO DIE INSIDE A TITAN'S STOMACH...

I MEAN, I HAD ALL BUT LOST HOPE WHEN THE COMPANY BOSS WAS KILLED AND WE LOST TRACK OF EREN AND HISTORIA...

THE COMMANDER ISN'T GOING TO SIT BACK AND WATCH AS THEY FALSELY ACCUSE HIM AND SHUT DOWN THE SURVEY CORPS!

AND ...

IT HAS TO BE THAT UNDER-TAKER! WHY ELSE WOULD SOMEONE STAY AT AN INN WITH TWO COFFINS?!

BUT THANKS TO THE CAPTAIN'S QUICK THINKING, OUR STAKEOUT OF STOHESS DISTRICT WORKED!

...WE CAN PROBABLY FIND OUT HOW EREN CAN HARDEN HIS TITAN'S SKIN, TOO!

...OR IF WE CAN FIND RECORDS OF HOW THE WALLS WERE CREATED...

IF WE CAN JUST GET LORD REISS...

IF THE CAPTAIN DID ORDER ME TO KILL, I STILL DOUBT I COULD DO IT.

IF YOU'RE GOING TO KILL OTHER HUMANS... YOU CAN STILL COUNT ME OUT.

EVEN IF IT DOES ALL GO WELL...

JUST LIKE WHAT HE DID TO HISTORIA!

CAPTAIN LEVI THINKS HE CAN USE VIOLENCE TO MAKE PEOPLE DO AS HE SAYS.

ME TOO.

HE PROBABLY DID THAT TO MAKE HER EASIER TO CONTROL ONCE SHE BECOMES QUEEN!

THREATENING HISTORIA WHEN SHE WAS PRACTICALLY A HUSK OF HER USUAL SELF...

YET HE ACTED SO HUMBLE WITH THE REEVES COMPANY!

WHAT I DID...

...IN ANY CASE... I DIDN'T JOIN THE SURVEY CORPS TO BECOME PART OF A VIOLENT GANG.

...WAS DEDICATE MY HEART TO SAVING HUMANITY.

GRIP

RIGHT, MIKASA?

NO... YOU CAN'T! DON'T LET YOURSELF FALTER NOW!

AND I'D LIKE ALL OF YOU...

...TO DECIDE NOW, TOO.

I ALWAYS NOTICED THAT SOMETHING WAS OFF ABOUT THAT SHORTY...

BUT I THINK OUR BEST OPTION RIGHT NOW WOULD BE TO FOLLOW CAPTAIN LEVI'S ORDERS.

TWO COFFINS... THEY'RE BEING LOADED ON A WAGON.

NO MISTAKING IT...

THAT'S THE FIRST SQUAD...

UNLESS THEY'RE NECRO-PHILIACS OR SOMETHING...

BUT THANKS TO YOUR PREDICTION THAT THEY'D COME THROUGH THIS TOWN, WE GOT HERE FIRST...

...WE ALMOST LOST THEM.

AND EREN AND HISTORIA ARE INSIDE THOSE COFFINS.

THEY'RE NOT ACTING LIKE I'D EXPECT THE FIRST SQUAD TO.

SOME-THING'S ODD...

...

THEY TEND TO THINK LIKE M...

THE FIRST SQUAD FIGURED OUT REEVES WAS ON OUR SIDE...

HIM ...

WELL, MAYBE MORE LIKE...

WHOOOOOSH

HAVE YOU HEARD OF "KENNY THE RIPPER"?

HM?

HIM?

THAT'S JUST AN URBAN LEGEND FROM DECADES AGO, THOUGH.

HE EXISTS. IT'S ALL TRUE.

WHAT ?!

THE ONE THEY SAY SLIT THE THROATS OF OVER A HUNDRED MPS WHO TRIED TO CAPTURE HIM...?

THE MASS MURDERER FROM THE CITY?

HUH?! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU...?

I LIVED WITH HIM FOR A TIME WHEN I WAS A KID.

YOU KNOW, HE HAD A BIG INFLUENCE ON THE WAY I THINK...

HOW CAN YOU JOKE AROUND AT A TIME LIKE THIS, CAPTAIN...?

SURROUND THEM ON BOTH SIDES FROM BEHIND...

WHEN YOU'RE STALKING A TARGET AS A GROUP...

USING HIGH GROUND AND GOOD VISIBILITY-

THUMP

NIFA-

BOOM

BOOM

BAM

BOOM

BOOM!!

AAAHHH!!

RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE

THUD

HEY, LEVI.

KACHINK

CLANG

CHIK

LOOK AT HOW YA'VE GROWN.

GA-CHAK

PSSHT

GRIP

KATT

SKRRRRRRRRRRRRRR

NO
...

SHINK

KENNYO

YA HAVEN'T REALLY CHANGED MUCH, HAVE YA?!

ATTACK
ON TITAN